



*May 10, 2015
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Vol. 47, No. 19*

ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •



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WEBSITE: sjb-brusly.com
CHRISTIAN FORMATION: 225-749-3387

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil..... 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00 a.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m., with Adoration until 11:30 a.m.
First Saturday of the month only 8:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday..... 3:30–4:15 p.m.
Tuesday thru Friday..... 7:40 a.m. or by appointment

PARISH STAFF

Very Rev. Matthew P. Lorrain Pastor
Sammy Collura Permanent Deacon
Carolyn Dupuy Bookkeeper
Pat Durbin..... Parish Secretary
Karen Lemoine Christian Formation
Celeste Veillon Music Director
Larry Durbin..... Maintenance Supervisor
Richard Rabalais..... Maintenance

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Office closed for lunch 12:30–1:30 p.m.

BAPTISM

Celebrated monthly after the 11:00 am Mass. Also celebrated during Mass on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord and Easter Sunday. Parents should call the office to enroll in our baptismal preparation program, preferably early in pregnancy. Parents are encouraged to register in the parish and actively practice their faith.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Inquiries – Call the Parish Office

MARRIAGE

Contact the pastor at least 6 months prior to proposed wedding date. Preparation program is required. Couples should be actively practicing their faith.

CARE OF THE SICK

Emergency calls answered immediately, if possible. Communion calls to homebound and hospitals weekly by request. Please notify the office if someone is homebound.

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Family should contact the pastor to begin funeral arrangements.

PRAYER LINE

Call Judy Thousand, 749-9257 or the Parish office

“If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.” - Jn 15:10-11

Dear Parishioners,

Today we celebrate the 6th Sunday of Easter as well as Mother’s Day. We are nearing the end of our fifty day celebration of Christ’s victory over death and the gift of new life through baptism. We also honor all of the mothers of our community for their sacrificial love and devotion to their families. Mothers share in a special way in the creative work of God in bringing new life into the world.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge wrote “The love of a mother is the veil of a softer light between the heart and the heavenly Father.” Mothers are special ambassadors of God’s love and help to plant the gift of faith in the minds and hearts of their children. Victor Hugo wrote “A mother’s arms are made of tenderness and children sleep soundly in them.” We thank God for the precious gift of motherhood and once again ask his generous blessing upon all mothers.

I remind you that most dioceses in the United States, including all of those in Louisiana, have transferred the observance of the *Feast of the Ascension of the Lord* from this Thursday to next Sunday. The prayers and readings for the Ascension replace those of the 7th Sunday of Easter. This was done for pastoral reasons in the hope that more Catholics would be able to celebrate this wonderful dimension of the Easter mystery.

We recently began working with landscape architect and native son Craig Rhodes to develop a plan for improvements to the landscape around the church and cemetery. Some of the planting around our sign, the Lourdes grotto, and brick planters in the front of the church need reworking. We also wish to define and landscape the new area in the cemetery for infant burials, and also add some small trees and other shrubs where appropriate to further beautify our cemetery. The cemetery committee will meet this Tuesday, May 12, at 5:00 to review the plans.

Those interested in helping to plan and prepare for this year’s *Feast on the Levee* are invited to a meeting that same evening, Tuesday, May 12, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the activity center. The *Feast on the Levee* is an important fundraiser and community builder for our parish family so please consider offering your

time and talent to help make it a success. The date for this year’s Feast is Sunday, October 25, 2015.

The 2015 NFL Draft is now in the books and Saints fans hope and pray that we can reverse our poor history of evaluating talent and add some needed players to the roster. Football is a team sport but it is amazing how one or two players with the right attitude and effort can provide a much needed spark to create success on the playing field. We’ll have to wait and see.

The Diocese of Baton Rouge has a much better track record when it comes to ordaining new priests for our Church. We look forward to celebrating the ordination of three new priests later this month on May 30 at St. Joseph Cathedral. Pray for vocations.

In Christ,
Father Matt



THE POT LUCK DINNER PLANNED FOR THURSDAY, MAY 21st HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO MAINTENANCE WORK BEING DONE IN THE ACTIVITY CENTER.

Mark Your Calendars!!!

Vacation Bible School

July 13—17, 2015

“Exploring Mt. Everest, With God

Everything is possible.”



Happy
Mother's
Day

A PRAYER FOR ALL MOTHERS

*Thank you, Lord, that you fill a mother’s heart with love,
That you have instilled in her very being the need to protect
her children if at all possible.*

*Thank you for giving her the gift of nurturing her children,
of teaching them, of comforting them, for feeding them and
making a safe place for them.*

For guiding them to be all that God has created them to be.

*Fill every mother with love, wisdom and endurance,
With strength and patience and joy.*

Give them ability to forgive again and again.

*Enable them to rely on You and call upon You, because
You will give her all she needs.*

In Your precious and all powerful name. AMEN



BAPTISMAL SEMINAR
Wednesday, May 13, 2015
6:00 pm—Classroom #5

This class is mandatory for baptism.
Please call the parish office to register.



We are in the process of putting together our new Guide Book Directory. In addition to the directory being mailed to all of the congregation, the guide section will be made available online. This means if you own a business and would like to be featured in the book, you will also have a direct link to your website from the guide section. For more information, please contact Holli Nunn @ 225-223-1498 or email hollinunn@gmail.com.

Missioners of Christ

Through the Missioners of Christ, a non-profit Catholic organization, Young Adults from around our diocese have the opportunity to travel to the mountainous villages in and around Comayagua, Honduras this upcoming June. The group of anxious young adults asks for the help of the St. John the Baptist parish through prayers and supply donations. On the mission, the youth run a Vacation Bible School and other programs for the families they will be helping, all while growing spiritually and sharing their Catholic faith. The following is a list of urgent supplies:

Medical	Office Supplies/ Arts and Crafts	Religious	Other
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Excedrin ▪ Aspirin (325 mg) ▪ Gas-X ▪ Chloraseptic ▪ Nyquill ▪ Multivitamins ▪ Neosporin ▪ Emergen-C ▪ Disposable instant cold and hot packs ▪ Hand Sanitizer ▪ Lice Shampoo ▪ Ace Bandages ▪ Gatorade Powder ▪ Disinfectant Wipes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Elmer's Glue ▪ Glue Sticks ▪ Duct Tape ▪ Masking Tape ▪ 9x12 Envelopes ▪ Pens ▪ Face paints ▪ Balloons ▪ Printer cartridges - HP 60 ▪ Toner for Brother HL - 5470 DW printer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Divine Mercy Pamphlets (in Spanish) ▪ Charcoal for adoration ▪ Catholic Bibles in Spanish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ziploc bags, big and small ▪ Soccerballs and volleyballs ▪ Guitar strings -metal (medium) ▪ Guitar picks ▪ Pots and pans ▪ Kitchen Towels ▪ Batteries (AA, AAA, D)

The missioners will also be visiting masses the May 23 & 24 to share more about the mission. Thanks for your support!

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

May 3, 2015

REGULAR:

271 Identified- - - - - \$16,206.00
 Loose Collection- - - - - 680.00
 TOTAL- - - - - \$16,886.00

A VOCATION VIEW

The greatest love story that ever happened: God's continuing love for His people. All God asks is "Love one another as I have loved you." The world really needs to see people who are trying to love others with all their hearts. Priests and religious can be excellent examples of this love. If you are willing to answer God's call, call or email Father Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org., or visit www.diobr.org/vocations.

Manresa Retreat

Men of St. John the Baptist Parish:

Treat yourself to a rewarding weekend of spiritual growth and time with the Lord, by making a retreat with a group of men from our parish beginning July 2nd and ending July 5th at the Manresa House of Retreats in Convent, LA. For more details and registration information, please contact Deacon Sammy Collura at (225-603-9635) or Grayson Brewer at (225-975-3603).



ROSARYVILLE

"Dreams: God's Forgotten Language"

May 16—20, 2015

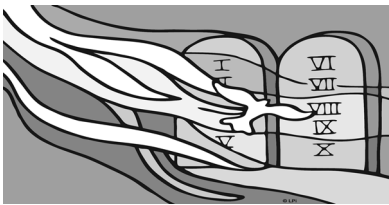
This Dream Retreat will be led by Janice Bachman, O.P. It begins on Saturday with arrival mid-afternoon, dinner and the first session at 7:00 pm and will end at 4:00 pm on Wednesday. Dreams have often been referred to as God's forgotten language. Working with our dreams can be an important way to uncover our call to holiness and wholeness and, thus, deepen our relationship with God. This retreat will provide an opportunity to pay attention and work with dreams in the context of prayer, retreat and a contemplative environment. Daily one-on-one sessions with the director will be available as time permits. To register or if you have any questions, please call Rosaryville at (225) 294-5039 or sdavis@oppeace.org.

Readings for the Week of May 10, 2015

Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/1 Jn 4:7-10
 or 1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 15:9-17
 or Jn 17:11b-19
 Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Jn 15:26--16:4a
 Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Jn 16:5-11
 Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22--18:1/Jn 16:12-15
 Thursday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Jn 15:9-17
 Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Jn 16:20-23
 Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Jn 16:23b-28
 Next Sunday: Acts 1:1-11/Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13
 or Eph 1:17-23/Mk 16:15-20

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2014-2015

Donna Badon
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Bourg
Chris Buckle, Chairman
Deacon Sammy Collura
Stacy Gauthreaux
David Landry, Secretary
Jules Lefeaux
Mark Loreno
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Jason Murphey
Andrea Smicker
Toni Tolar, Vice-Chairman
John Windham



6th Sunday of Easter

"It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain." We sometimes tend to believe the opposite. It's not unusual for us to think, "I have chosen to be a Christian," and then to imagine that the process really started with us, that it was our initiative, our decision to believe, our act of faith that got the ball rolling in our spiritual life. Of course our decision is important, but Jesus reminds us today that he is actually the one who took the first step. He chose us. He called and invited us to be among his followers and friends. As the second reading tells us, "God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him." That happened first. The next step is ours, to accept this life that is offered to us through our own act of faith.

The other part of this equation is that, as Jesus tells us, we have been chosen for a mission. This isn't all just about our personal faith and our relationship with him. He calls us to know and love him, and when we respond, we are "appointed" to be fruitful in the world. We are supposed to live our faith in such a way that something valuable, beautiful, and useful comes from it. Jesus sends us to make the world a better place, not in a vague, feel-good, fluffy way but in a real, concrete way. He equips us to bear fruit that will remain. This isn't superficial or flighty. The work we do in the world--whether it be alleviating the suffering of the sick and poor, evangelizing those who do not know about the gift of salvation, raising our children to be faithful Christians, or carrying out our career with integrity and generosity--all of this is meant to be the effect of our response to the call that Jesus gave us.